NTPC and one by the Gujarat Electricity Board had been received. It has been decided to commit the requisite gas for these projects. Commitment of gas linkage for the Pipavav Project would be contingent on the level of outlays for the oil and gas sector as also the power sector in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Higher Charges for Gas Supplied to Industries in Gujarat

809. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government and the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry have demanded reduction in the prices of gas supplied to industries in that State;

(b) what are the prices charged from industries in Gujarat for supply the gas;

(c) what are the prices charged for supplying gas to the industries in Assam;

(d) whether it is a fact that prices charged in Assam for supplying gas to industries there are much less in comparison to that charged from the industries in Gujarat; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A uniform price of Rs. 1400 per thousand cubic metre of gas is being charged from industries in Gujarat w.e.f. 30-1-87 as per the price fixed by Government of India.

(c) to (e) From 30-1-87, the price being charged for gas in the North-Eastern Region is Rs. 1000/1000 M3 with a provision for discount of upto Rs. 500/1000 M3 (exclusive of royalty, levies etc.). The concessional price of gas in the North-Eastern Region is primarily in view of the lack of demand for gas in the region.

Royalty on Crude oil Produced in Gujarat

810. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to answer to Unstarred Question 747 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether any discussion has recently taken place between his Ministry and Gujarat Government regarding revision of rates of royalty for oil and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) The Government of India had taken a decision revising the rates of royalty on crude oil from Rs. 192 per tonne to Rs. 314/- per tonne for the period 1.4.1987 to 31.3.1990 and to Rs. 374/- per tonne for the period 1.4.1990 to 31.3.1993. However, the Chief Minister of Gujarat has requested that the entire question of revision of royalty should be referred to a Committee for further examination. The request of Chief Minister of Gujarat is under consideration of the Government.

Mini-cement plants in Karnataka

811. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI VITHAL RAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many mini-cement plants in the small sector have been set up in Karnataka State:

(b) whether it is a fact that all these plants have availed C.R.I. technology: